
U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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MOLYBDENUM IN AUGUST 1996

Domestic production of molybdenum in concentrate was the same in August 1996 compared with that of the previous month and was 13% less than in August 1995, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Producer molybdenum stocks in concentrate, oxide, and other product forms were 8,930 metric tons at the beginning of 1996 and 7,840 metric tons at the end of August.

Included in this Mineral Industry Surveys (MIS) are U.S. production, shipments, and stocks of molybdenum concentrates and materials, plus U.S. consumption by end use of molybdenum in August 1996. Also included are trade data for July 1996. During August, Platt's Metals Week U.S. monthly

average price for molybdenum concentrate was \$4.409 per kilogram (\$2.000 per pound). The average price for dealer molybdenum oxide was \$7.121 per kilogram (\$3.230 per pound) and that for dealer ferromolybdenum was \$10.031 per kilogram (\$4.409 per pound).

For the week ending October 18, 1996, Metals Week U.S. average price for molybdenum concentrate was \$6.063 per kilogram (\$2.750 per pound). The average price for dealer molybdenum oxide was \$10.196 per kilogram (\$4.625 per pound) and that for ferromolybdenum was \$11.795 per kilogram (\$5.350 per pound).

TABLE 1
U.S. SALIENT MOLYBDENUM CONCENTRATE STATISTICS 1/

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

Item	1995 p/	1996		
		July	August	Year to date 2/
Production	58,000	3,910	3,910	36,400
Shipments: 3/				
Domestic	13,700	1,370	1,410	10,600
Export	18,600	1,210	4,750	14,700

p/ Preliminary.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

2/ May include revisions to previous months' data.

3/ As reported by producers.

TABLE 2
U.S. REPORTED CONSUMPTION, BY END USES, AND CONSUMER STOCKS OF MOLYBDENUM MATERIALS
IN AUGUST 1996 1/

(Hundred kilograms, contained molybdenum)

End use	Molybdic oxides	Ferro molyb- denum 2/	Ammonium and sodium molybdate	Molyb- denum scrap	Other	Total
Steel:						
Carbon	449	284	--	--	W	733
Stainless and heat-resisting	1,960	91	--	--	W	2,050
Full alloy	2,150	1,420	--	--	42	3,610
High-strength low-alloy	388	222	--	--	--	610
Tool	770	44	--	--	W	814
Cast irons	17	498	--	--	W	515
Superalloys	859	W	--	665	493	2,020
Alloys:						
Welding materials (structural and hard-facing)	--	W	--	--	W	W
Other alloys 3/	--	W	--	5	W	5
Mill products made from metal power	--	--	--	--	W	W
Chemical and ceramic uses:						
Pigments	--	--	7	--	--	7
Catalysts	773	--	W	--	W	773
Other	W	--	--	--	W	W
Miscellaneous and unspecified	10	132	788	--	2,510	3,440
Total	7,380	2,690	796	671	3,050	14,600
Stocks, August 31, 1996	4,920	1,530	93	296	8,670	15,500

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included in "Miscellaneous and unspecified."

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes calcium molybdate.

3/ Includes magnetic and nonferrous alloys.

TABLE 3
U.S. REPORTED PRODUCTION AND SHIPMENTS OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS 1/

(Metric tons, contained molybdenum)

Product	1995 p/	1996		
		July r/	August	Year to date 2/
Gross production	46,000	2,910	3,620	29,000
Molybdenum product 3/ used to make other products	23,100	1,990	2,130	16,000
Shipments	24,000	1,900	1,870	15,800

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

2/ May include revisions to previous months' data.

3/ Includes molybdic oxides, metal powder, ammonium molybdate, sodium molybdate, and other.

TABLE 4
U. S. EXPORTS OF MOLYBDENUM ORE AND CONCENTRATE
(Including roasted concentrate), BY COUNTRY 1/

(Hundred kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	1995 p/	1996		
		June	July	Year to date
Australia	650	--	138	276
Belgium	103,000	14,700	8,980	87,300
Brazil	1,580	--	--	190
Canada	7,590	560	210	1,720
Chile	62,900	5,360	1,350	34,500
China	--	623	1,200	3,470
France	--	--	50	56
Germany	7,700	363	907	3,670
Italy	1,370	588	11	1,230
Japan	54,900	3,680	4,300	31,000
Korea, Republic of	2	--	--	--
Mexico	40,400	1,580	5,860	33,200
Netherlands	112,000	4,620	7,230	33,400
Singapore	1	--	--	--
Spain	121	--	--	--
Sweden	6,300	430	199	2,570
Switzerland	324	--	--	--
Taiwan	6	--	--	--
United Kingdom	47,400	6,390	6,380	44,900
Venezuela	5	7,200	--	--
Total	446,000	39,700	36,800	277,000

p/ Preliminary.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 5
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROMOLYBDENUM, BY COUNTRY 1/

(Hundred kilograms, contained molybdenum)

Country	1995 p/	1996		
		June r/	July	Year to date 2/
Australia	8	--	--	--
Canada	2,140 r/	126	35	1,140
China	2	--	--	--
Egypt	9	--	--	--
Japan	1,050	128	104	1,110
Korea, Republic of	21	7	--	19
Malaysia	223 r/	--	--	372
Mexico	2,010 r/	57	137	602
Netherlands	737	--	--	--
Singapore	--	80	46	359
Spain	234	--	6	12
Taiwan	485	--	--	--
Venezuela	27	--	--	8
Total	6,920 r/	398	328	3,620

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ May include revisions to previous months' data.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MOLYBDENUM PRODUCTS 1/

(Hundred kilograms unless otherwise specified)

Material	1995			1996		
	January-December			January-July		
	Gross weight	Contained molybdenum	Value (thousands)	Gross weight	Contained molybdenum	Value (thousands)
Ore and concentrates roasted	74,300	47,800	\$73,400	48,200	33,300	\$25,100
Ore and concentrates other	15,000	7,930	8,040	350	209	166
Molybdenum chemicals:						
Oxides and hydroxides	9,180	NA	11,400	4,400	NA	3,690
Molybdates of ammonium	3,450	1,860	2,880	3,970	2,000	3,500
Molybdates (all others)	540	420	285	423	191	261
Molybdenum orange	6,740	NA	2,270	11,400	NA	3,490
Mixtures of inorganic compounds	6	5	130	--	--	--
Ferromolybdenum	65,500	41,900	74,600	55,700	35,100	40,700
Molybdenum powders	1,950	1,460	5,590	597	533	1,730
Molybdenum unwrought	1,310	1,020	3,560	557	516	1,470
Molybdenum waste and scrap	4,530	4,300	6,310	5,330	4,990	7,870
Molybdenum wrought	--	--	--	--	--	--
Molybdenum wire	11	NA	277	13	NA	184
Molybdenum other	27	NA	993	23	NA	640
Total	183,000	107,000	190,000	131,000	76,900	88,900

NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: Bureau of the Census.